Linzer biol. Beitr.	45/1	709-712	31.7.2013

A new species of *Philonthus* from Madagascar (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Philonthina)

L. HROMÁDKA

A b s t r a c t : *Philonthus janaki* nov.sp. is described from the Madagascar and compared with the similar *P. hapalemur* HROMÁDKA & JANÁK 2011. The male genitalia and important external male characters of both species are illustrated.

K e y w o r d s : Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Philonthina, *Philonthus*, Madagascar, taxonomy, new species.

Introduction

The genus *Philonthus* belongs to the tribe Staphylinini and is the largest genus in the subtribe Philonthina occuring in all zoogeographical regions. Members of this genus are predators of tiny insects and their larvae. They live in rotting vegetable material, animal corpses, manure and moss. Many species are typical inhabitans of riversides, some live exclusively in nests of birds and small underground mammals, some are found only in mountains, in still water and salt marshes.

The genus *Philonthus* STEPHENS 1829 is represented in the Madagascar by about 26 species.

Material, methods and measurements

The material referred in this study is deposited in the following private collection:

cJRC .....private collection Jiří Janák, Rtyně nad Bílinou (Czech Republic)

A double slash (//) is used to divide separate labels of the type specimen. All measurements were taken from the beetle with extended abdomen. Ratios mentioned in the description can be converted to lengths using the following formula: 20 units = 1 mm.

Results

Philonthus janaki nov.sp. (Figs 1-3)

Type material: Holotype ♂: "Madagascar, Tsaratanana Antsirasira-Morawato env., 24-30.11.2001, I. Andreeva & V. Dolin & R. Andreeva //Holotypus *Philonthus janaki* nov.sp. Hromádka det., 2012 [red oblong label printed] (cJRC).

Description: Body length 10.4 mm, length of fore body (to end of elytra) 5.0 mm.

Colouration: Body anthracite black, labial palpomeres black, maxillary palpomere 3 black-brown, remaining palpomeres, antennae, femora and tibiae black, tarsi brown.

Head rounded, wider than long (ratio 34: 31), posterior angles indistinct, bearing one long black and several short bristles. Four coarse punctures present between eyes, distance between medial punctures four times as large as distance between medial and lateral puncture. Eyes flat, as long as temples, posterior angles with two coarse punctures, temporal area with several varying large punctures. Surface without microsculpture, with many microscopic dots.

Antennae slender and long, reaching posterior margin of pronotum when reclined. Antennomeres 1-3 distinctly longer than wide, antennomeres 4-7 and 11 slightly longer than wide, antennomeres 8-10 as long as wide.

Pronotum highly convex, anterior angles conspicuously deflexed, vaguely obtusely rounded, posterior angles markedly rounded. Each dorsal row with four punctures, distance between punctures 2 and 3 larger than distance between punctures 1 and 2 and between punctures 3 and 4. Each sublateral row with two punctures, puncture two distinctly shifted to the lateral margin. Surface without microsculpture.

Scutellum very finely and densely punctured, diameter of punctures approximately as large as eye-facets, separated by distance smaller than one puncture diameter.

Elytra wider than long (ratio 54: 50), very slightly widened posteriad. Punctation larger than that on scutellum, transverse interstices smaller than one puncture diameter, many punctures contiguous. Surface without microsculpture; setation black. Sides bearing two long and several short black bristles.

Legs. Metatarsus longer than metatibia (ratio 36: 32), metatarsomere 1 longer than metatarsomere 5, as long as metatarsomeres 2-3 combined.

Abdomen wide, from visible tergite III very slightly anteriad and distinctly posteriad narrowed. First three visible tergites with two basal lines, elevated area between lines finely and densely punctured. Punctation at base of all tergites slightly finer and denser than that on elytra, becoming sparser towards posterior margin of each tergite. Surface without microsculpture; setation similat to that on elytra.

Male. Protarsomeres 1-3 dilated and sub-bilobed, each covered with modified pale setae ventrally, protarsomere 4 narrower than preceding ones. Aedeagus (Figs 1-3).

Female. Unknown.

Comparative notes: *Philonthus janaki* nov.sp. is similar to *P. hapalemur* HROMÁDKA & JANÁK 2011 (Figs 4-6), but it differs in having narrower head, shorter

antennae, less numbers of punctures in dorsal rows, denser punctation of elytra and by the different shape of the aedeagus.

E t y m o l o g y : It is my pleasure to dedicate this new species to my friend, Czech entomologist Ing. Jiří Janák, specialist on the Staphylinidae.

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Madagascar.

Acknowledgements

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Jiří Janák (Rtyně nad Bílinou, Czech Republic) for the loan of the Madagascarian material and for valuable comments on the manuscript.

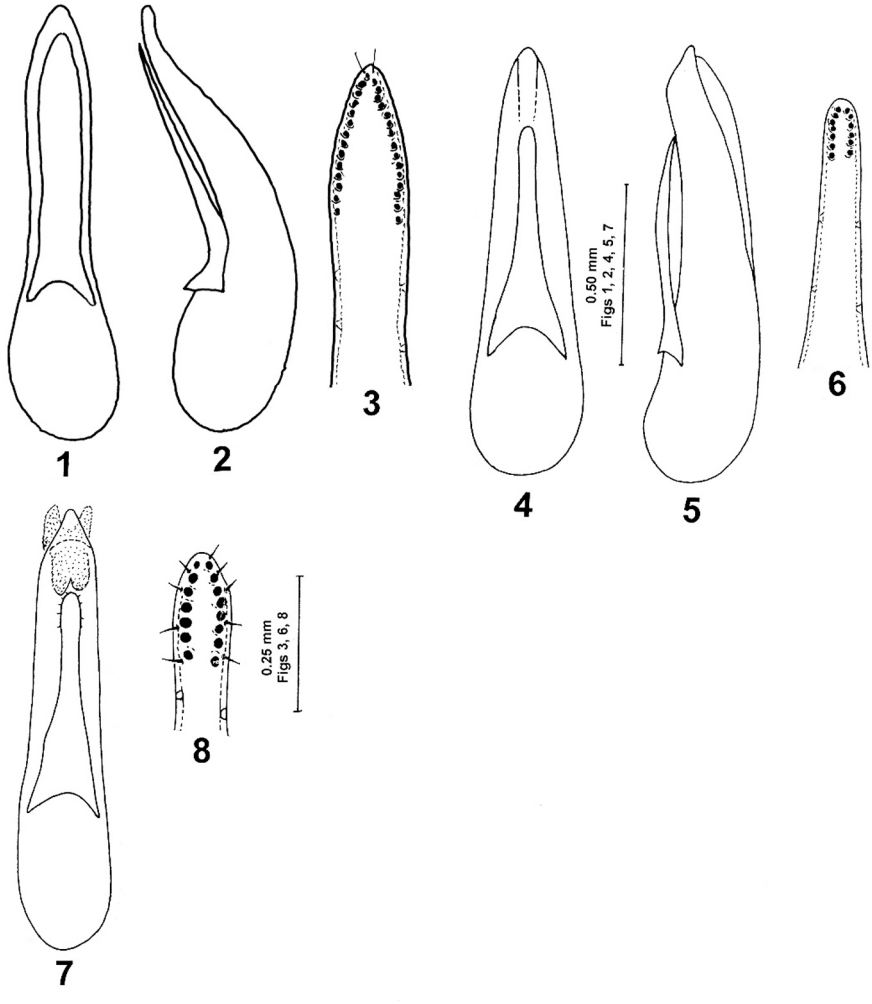
Zusammenfassung

Philonthus janaki nov.sp. (Madagascar) wird beschrieben und von der ähnlichen *P. hapalemur* HROMÁDKA & JANÁK 2011 unterschieden. Die äußeren sowie die männlichen Geschlechtsmerkmale der zwei Arten werden abgebildet.

References

HROMÁDKA L & J. JANÁK (2011): *Philonthus hapalemur* sp.nov. and redescription of *P. plasoni* from Madagascar (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Philonthina). — Acta Entomologica Musei Nationalis Pragae **51**: 137-143.

Author´s address: Lubomír HROMÁDKA
Anny Letenské 7
CZ-120 00 Praha 2, Czech Republic
E-mail: hromadka@seznam.cz



Figs 1-3: *Philonthus janaki* nov.sp.: (**1**) aedeagus, ventral view; (**2**) aedeagus, lateral view; (**3**) apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view.

Figs 4-8: *Philonthus hapalemur* HROMÁDKA & JANÁK 2011: (**4**) aedeagus, ventral view; (**5**) aedeagus, lateral view; (**6**) apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view; (**7**) aedeagus, ventral view, transmitted light; (**8**) apex of paramere with sensory peg setae, ventral view.